

positions is illustrated in FIG. 8. The foil stack is arranged at a first distance above the joining stack, as has been described with respect to FIG. 3 above. Again, a transportation unit configured to pick up and transport the first carrier element 60 is not explicitly illustrated in FIGS. 7 to 9. The support frame 44 may be placed on the first part 41 by means of a second carrier element 46, for example. In FIGS. 7 and 8, the second carrier element 46 is illustrated in a holding position. For example, the second section 442 of the support frame 44 may form a protrusion which allows the second carrier element 46 to lift the support frame 44 in the vertical direction y. The second carrier element 46 may be part of a robotic unit, for example (not specifically illustrated in FIGS. 7-9). Once the support frame 44 is arranged in its final resting position, the second carrier element 46 may be removed, as is exemplarily illustrated in FIG. 9. FIG. 9 schematically illustrates the arrangement of FIGS. 7 and 8 while exerting a force F to the joining stack.

[0044] As has been mentioned above, the joining process may be performed in a process chamber. The process chamber 100 may comprise one or more separate sub-chambers, for example. According to one example (see FIG. 10), the process chamber 100 comprises a single sub-chamber. For example, the one or more foils 50, 51 may first be arranged above the joining stack and subsequently the arrangement comprising the joining stack and the foil stack may be transferred into the process chamber 100. According to another example, the joining stack may be assembled inside the process chamber 100 and the at least one foil 50, 51 may subsequently be arranged above the joining stack. The process chamber 100 may then be closed and a defined atmosphere may be generated inside the process chamber 100. For example, a vacuum may be generated inside the process chamber 100 or the process chamber 100 may be filled with a protective gas. Then, the joining process may be performed by applying pressure to the joining stack and subsequently, the joining stack may remain in the process chamber 100 in the defined atmosphere until it has cooled down to a defined temperature. This, however, is only an example. If the process chamber 100 comprises only a single sub-chamber, performing a plurality of subsequent joining processes requires a comparably long time. This is, because each joining stack needs to remain in the same sub-chamber of the process chamber 100 from the beginning of the process (generating a controlled atmosphere) until the very end of the process (joining stack cooled down to defined temperature).

[0045] Therefore, in some cases it might be more efficient if the process chamber 100 comprises two or more sub-chambers. An arrangement for joining two joining members that is arranged in a process chamber 100 comprising three sub-chambers 101, 102, 103 is exemplarily illustrated in FIG. 11. The one or more foils 50, 51 may first be arranged above the joining stack and subsequently the arrangement may be transferred into the first sub-chamber 101 of the process chamber. It is also possible to arrange the foil stack with respect to the joining stack inside the first sub-chamber 101. A defined atmosphere may be created inside the first sub-chamber 101.

[0046] The joining stack and the foil stack may then be transferred to a second sub-chamber 102. The actual joining process may be performed in the second sub-chamber 102. A passage between the first sub-chamber 101 and the second sub-chamber 102 may be sealed while the joining process is

performed in the second sub-chamber 102. While the joining process is performed in the second sub-chamber 102, the next foil stack may be arranged on the next joining stack in the first sub-chamber 101 and the defined atmosphere may be generated in the first sub-chamber 101. After performing the joining process, the joining stack may be transferred to a third sub-chamber 103. The third sub-chamber 103 may also provide a defined atmosphere. That is, the joining stack may cool down in the third sub-chamber 103 in a defined atmosphere. At the same time, the next joining stack may be moved from the first sub-chamber 101 to the second sub-chamber 102 and the next joining process may be performed. Simultaneously, another joining stack and foil stack may be transferred to the first sub-chamber 101 and a defined atmosphere may be generated. In this way, different joining stacks may be arranged in the different sub-chambers 101, 102, 103 and different sub-processes may be performed simultaneously.

[0047] After joining the joining members 10, 20, it is possible that only the joined joining members 10, 20 are transferred to the third sub-chamber 103. The foil stack, on the other hand, may be transferred back to the first sub-chamber 101, for example, to be reused in the next joining process.

[0048] At least some of the foils 50, 51 may be reused for a following joining process. For example, the compensation foil 50 may be used during two or more joining processes (e.g., 20 joining processes). The protective foil 51 may also be used during two or more joining processes. According to one example, the protective foil 51 may be replaced more frequently than the compensation foil 50. Arranging the foils 50, 51 on the first carrier element 60 simplifies the process of exchanging one or more foils in between two joining processes. The exchange of one or more foils 50, 51 may be performed inside the first sub-chamber 101, for example. Exchanging one or more foils 50, 51 may be performed manually or automated. In the third sub-chamber 103, the joined joining members 10, 20 may be further treated. For example, the joining members 10, 20 may be cleaned or cooled down in the third sub-chamber 103. If a support frame 44 is used for carrying the joining members 10, 20, the joining members may be unloaded from the support frame 44 inside the third sub-chamber 103 or after removing the joining members 10, 20 from the third sub-chamber 103.

[0049] According to another example, as illustrated in FIG. 12, the arrangement may be assembled before transferring the arrangement to the first sub-chamber 101, as has been described with respect to FIG. 11 above, or the assembly may take place inside the first sub-chamber 101. A defined atmosphere may be generated inside the first sub-chamber 101 and the joining stack may then be transferred to the second sub-chamber 102. The joining process may subsequently be performed in the second sub-chamber 102. The foil stack, however, may subsequently be transferred to the third sub-chamber 103 together with the joining members 10, 20. That is, the foil stack may pass through the same sub-chambers 101, 102, 103 as the joining members 10, 20. After exiting the third sub-chamber 103, the foil stack may be transferred back to the first sub-chamber 101, while the joining members 10, 20 are removed from the arrangement. According to an even further example, which is schematically illustrated in FIG. 13, the foil stack may be prepared in the third sub-chamber 103 or before transferring the foil stack to the third sub-chamber 103, while the joining mem-